

Little People’s Park

on Beaverton Creek, immediately east of Highway 217 and north of Fifth Street



AFTER

Reintroduced native wetland plants assist wildlife

BEFORE

Lacks plant diversity for wildlife



Little People’s Park, which lies within the Beaverton Creek watershed, had served as a basin for floodwaters from the creek and a seldom-used kickball field. Enhancements began in 1989; the property was regraded to create two habitat islands surrounded by a new channel fed by the waters of Beaverton Creek. In the spring of 1991, a plan was developed to return the area to a more natural condition by using native plants, shrubs and emergent plants. Plants were selected based upon their ability to provide food and cover for wildlife, beneficial impact to the water quality of Beaverton Creek, hardiness and drought resistance. In addition, Rodeo was applied in spots to control Himalayan blackberry and reed canary grass.

Once the grant was awarded, plants were ordered from local nurseries for fall planting. Throughout the year, a series of workshops were held at neighborhood association meetings to explain the benefits of the restoration and invite participation in a planting party. On Oct. 24, 1992, Beaverton planning and public works staff, local residents and biology students from Beaverton High School gathered at the site to install hundreds of trees, shrubs, and plants. Public works staff delivered plants to the site using city-owned trucks. The city also provided shovels,

ball carriers and other necessary tools. Demonstrations were given to the volunteers on proper planting techniques and how to place, fertilize and stake plants. Chicken wire cages were used around deciduous trees to protect them from the numerous beavers living along Beaverton Creek. Most of the site was planted with in four to five hours. Volunteers returned the following weekend to complete the planting.

Benefits

A “natural” area supporting native vegetation and providing wildlife habitat was created. Awareness about the benefits of restoration was increased among neighborhood organizations.

Timeline and tasks

Spring 1991 Planting plans
Fall 1992 Workshops, spraying,
planting

Budget

Proposed – \$13,807

Actual – \$12,309

Metro/US Fish and Wildlife grant award – \$7,500

Helpful hints – what worked, what didn't

- Get more help than you think you need.

Partners

City of Beaverton

Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District

Local residents

Beaverton High School

Contact

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